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R E M A R K S

On the late

C O N D U C T

O F O U R

Fleet in the *Mediterranean*.

In a LETTER to a

MEMBER of PARLIAMENT.

By an ENGLISHMAN.

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Fleet in the *Mediterranean*.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE the Honour to receive your very kind Letter of the 2d instant, and see you concur in Opinion with me, that our late Ill-success in the *Mediterranean* could arise from no other possible Cause or Motive but mere downright **Cowardice**. This I take to be the general Sentiment of the whole Kingdom. How the News was receiv'd in *London* I can't say ; but do assure you, in all this Part of the Nation, People of all Parties, Ranks, and Degrees, were quite stunn'd and knock'd down. Their Minds, in general, were never before so deeply affected with any National Loss or Calamity as at this *most shameful and cowardly Affair* : --- As there is no Charge can ever be brought on the *English Nation* so infamous and

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detestible

detestible as that of *Cowardice*, especially in our Navy, on the Bravery and Conduct of which our very Being and Existence, as a Nation, depends.

VOLTAIRE must certainly be allow'd to be a good Judge of the present Political System of Government in all the *European* Nations. He tells us plainly, that within these 50 Years past the System of Government in most Nations is in great measure alter'd and changed, and that, during this Tract, their Trade, Manufactures, and Navigation, have increas'd to a surprizing and astonishing Degree; and that henceforward vast and great Land Armies will not be deem'd so just and necessary as they have formerly been; and that, as the Case now stands, the Disputes are Who shall be Masters at Sea; and that whatever Power can maintain Superiority at Sea must, and will, according to the natural Course and Result of Things, soon gain a Superiority on Land."

Voltaire's Opinion has a good deal of Weight with me; --- especially when I consider that *France*, and many other Nations, may remain and exist without having the Superiority at Sea. But in *England* the Case is vastly different. --- The Moment we lose our Dominion of the Sea, we cease to exist. We can no longer be a Nation of Free People. We at once give up our most holy Religion, Laws, and Liberties, which our Ancestors have handed down to us sacred and inviolable, at an amazing Expence of Blood and Treasure.

Consider,



Consider, my dear Friend, that within 8 Hours Sail of us there stands a Great and Mighty Prince, possess'd of a vast Tract of Land in *Europe* and *America*; an Absolute and Tyrannical Prince, the sole and uncontrollable Lord and Master of the Lives and Properties of 17 or 18 Millions of People in *Europe* only, and all even at our own Doors, separated from us only by a little Arm of the Sea. Consider likewise that this Prince is prompted by Interest, Inclination, and Revenge, and by every other Motive that can influence the Human Mind to seek our Ruin and Destruction.

This being the Case, what are we to do next? I will tell you plainly. We must then become humble Supplicants to some proud and haughty Priest to intercede with the Grand Monarch for Leave to transport our Selves, our Wives, and Children, to some of the wild & inhospitable Regions of *Africa* or *America*: For when Religion, Laws, and Liberties, are gone, none but Slaves and Cowards would stay behind. True *Englishmen* could not bear the doleful Sight.

In the Close of your Letter, Sir, you are pleas'd to say, " I agree with you, that those
 " *supposed* Cowards --- (for I will not abso-
 " lutely pronounce them such until they have
 " been Try'd by a proper and legal Court of
 " Judicature) — deserve to be punish'd with
 " the utmost Severity of the Law; but this I
 " never expect to see, when I consider, that
 " the Admirals, Captains, and other Officers,
 " in

“ in this Fleet, are Persons of considerable
 “ Rank and Fortune, and also that they are
 “ allied to, and connected with, some very
 “ Great Families; and therefore I fear that
 “ some political Reasons may influence our
 “ Ministry to pass it over with very little No-
 “ tice or Observation.”

This Paragraph in your Letter shock'd me to a great Degree, almost equal to the first News of our Fleet's flying before the *French*; and the more so as I very well know you have no small Share in the primrary Operations of Government, and therefore may have some Reasons for this Suggestion.

I assure you I have as great a Regard for our present King, his Family, his Government, and even for his present Ministry, as any Man can or ought to have. As to our present Ministers, I regard and esteem them very highly, well knowing they have all one general Point in View, *viz.* The real Honour, Reputation, and Welfare, of His Majesty and his Subjects.

Consider, dear Sir, the Nature and peculiar Circumstances of this Transaction, and the dreadful Consequences that may possibly attend it. The Eyes and Attention of all *Europe* were upon this Fleet. It scarce enter'd into the Head of any Man to conceive but what the *French* would instantly fly the Moment ours was got into the *Mediterranean*; or, if they should have Courage to face them, they would fall a sacrifice to the Courage and Bravery of our Sea-Officers and Sailors, and there-
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by the important Island of *Minorca* be at once secured.

But how did all *Europe* stand amaz'd and confounded, when they came to see our Fleet flying before *them*, after firing a few random Shot at a Distance. For it can with no Propriety be deem'd as a *Battle* or an *Action*. Most certainly they had every Motive that could influence the Mind of Man to act boldly and bravely, as they were equal, if not superior, to the *French*, both in Number of Ships, Guns, and Men. The Account given us of this Transaction by a famous Officer of this Fleet is amazing, and ridiculous to the last Degree, and carries in it the most plain and indubitable Marks of Cowardice. Every Letter, every Word, every Syllable, in it betrays a most dastardly and cowardly Spirit. I wish from the Bottom of my Soul it never had been printed, as it fixes an eternal Brand of the most detestible Infamy and Cowardice on the *British* Nation and Navy, which will continue as long as Sun and Moon shall endure.

The Officers in this Fleet could not look on it as a common Sea Fight. They must know, that by this shameful Retreat *Minorca* most probably would be lost, and our brave General and his Soldiers cut to pieces by a cruel and revengeful Enemy, and would naturally lead us into a *Spanish* War, and thereby be obliged to encounter with Two very powerful Nations, unaided and unassisted by any Mortal upon Earth;-- besides the great Loss of our *Spanish* Trade,

Trade, which is of no small Importance to this Kingdom; yea, in such a Situation, we should find ourselves under a Necessity of mortgaging our Persons, our Lands, and Generations yet to come, to discharge the many additional Millions of Money that may attend this most detestible Conduct.

These, Sir, are no Chimera's, but the natural Result and Consequences of this fatal Affair. This is most obvious and plain, and must be seen and known to every Officer in the Fleet: And one might reasonably have expected this Consideration alone would have rais'd and animated their Spirits, and have induced them to have fought with that Courage and Bravery for which the *English Nation* has (till now) been so very remarkable. What grieves me to the very Soul is, when I consider that our Annals must discover to Generations yet to come, that this infamous Affair happen'd in the Reign of *GEORGE II.*

As I am no Lawyer, I can't pretend to determine what Punishment may be assign'd to these supposed Criminals; for I will not (as you very judiciously observe) pronounce them really so, till they have been convicted by a proper and legal Court of Judicature. But, on examining our Antient Histories and Records, I find it, by the concurrent Opinion of our Civilians, That wilful and deliberate *Cowardice*, either in the Army or Navy, is punishable, not only with Death, but present and immediate Death; that is, as soon as a proper Court can be assembled:

sembled: Of which I could produce many Instances; but, however, shall mention but one in the Reign of the late Queen *Anne*.

Kirby and *Wade*, each Commanders of Sixty-gun Ships, refused to fight under the brave Admiral *Bembo* in the *West-Indies*; for which they were try'd by a Court-Martial at *Jamaica*. These two Cowards made a very sorry Defence, which they reduced to three separate Heads:

First, They alledged that the *French* Fleet was equal to theirs, both in Number of Ships, Men, and Guns; and consequently that it was imprudent and impolitick in their Admiral to attack them.

Secondly, That to attack the *French* Fleet on a Foot of Equality was inconsistent with that Concern and Regard they ought to have for the Preservation and Safety of Her Majesty's Ships, and the Lives of her Officers and Sailors.

Thirdly, That they fired as many Guns as any other Ship in the Fleet had done.

The Tryal lasted Four Days: The Court-Martial gave 'em a very deliberate Hearing, and shew'd them the utmost Indulgence and fair Play, and then came to the following Resolutions:

First, That for an *English* Ship or Ships to refuse to fight the *French* because they were on a Foot of Equality, was no more nor less than wilful and deliberate Cowardice.

Secondly, That the Concern and Regard they pretended to have had for the Preservation & Safety of Her Majesty's Ships, and the Lives

of her Officers and Sailors, was so ridiculous as to merit no Reply: That this Fleet had been fitted out in *England* by Her Majesty's special Command to engage *Monf. Du Cass*, who had almost ruin'd the Trade in that Part of the World by a vast Number of Captures; and that if Her Majesty had been afraid to hazard her Ships or Men, she would have kept them at home, and not have sent them out to engage such an Experienced Admiral as *Monfieur Du Cass* was known to be.

Thirdly, They all acknowledged, that they might have fired the Number of Guns they pretended to have done: But it appear'd, by some Scores of Sailors on board their own Ships, and by all the Sailors in the Fleet, that during the whole Engagement they were more than 3 Miles distant from the Enemy; notwithstanding the repeated Signals of the Admiral, and who at last sent his own Boat on board them, with Orders for them to bear down on the Enemy; which, it appear'd, they might easily have done in little more than Half an Hour.

These Resolutions being agreed to; --- the Court proceeded instantly to the definitive Sentence, viz. *That the said Wade and Kirby had been guilty of wilful and deliberate Cowardice, as well as a most notorious Breach and Violation of the many repeated Signals and Orders given them by their Admiral; and that for the same they should be shot to death.*

Afterwards

Afterwards many Debates arose about the Time of the Execution of the Sentence. Many of the Court declar'd, that, by the *Marine Laws*, they ought to be shot that very Day, or within a few Days of it. To cut the Affair short, they at last agreed, that the Sentence should stand, and remain on their Records; but that the Execution of it be suspended till Her Majesty's Will and Pleasure was known, and in the mean Time the Criminals to be kept in safe Custody.

A Ship was instantly dispatch'd to *England* with the Minutes and Proceedings of this Court Martial, which were highly approved of by the whole Kingdom; and Orders were sent back to *Jamaica* to bring the Criminals to *Plymouth*, and to execute the Sentence of the Court-Martial the very Day of their Arrival. And, accordingly, they arriv'd at *Plymouth* on the 19th of *April*, 1703. and were shot dead that very Day in the most open and conspicuous Manner.

Great Intercession was made to the Queen to pardon the Criminals: But she very strongly and positively declar'd, that the Law should take its Place; and that the Publick Safety made it necessary they should suffer Death.

My only Reason for transcribing these Historical Facts is, Fearing our supposed Criminals in the *Mediterranean* should, on their Tryals, produce the same Arguments in their Defence as those of *Kirby* and *Wade*: If they should, here is a most honourable Precedent for them.

The Court Martial at *Jamaica* roundly assert and declare, That if an *English* Fleet shall refuse to fight and engage a *French* one merely because they are on a Foot of Equality, that it is, and ought ever to be deem'd, a wilful and deliberate Act of Cowardice.

But I am mostly afraid they will lay their main Strefs on the second Part of the Defence made by *Kirby* and *Wade*, to-wit, That it was imprudent and impolitic to fight the *French*, and inconsistent with that Concern and Regard they ought to have for the Safety and Preservation of Her Majesty's Ships, and the Lives of her Officers and Sailors.

To this Part of their Defence the brave Court-Martial at *Jamaica* reply'd, that it was so ridiculous as to merit no Regard; -- that the Fleet under the brave Admiral *BEMBO* was fitted out with no other View than fighting and taking the *French* Admiral, *Monf. Du Casf*; -- and that if Her Majesty had been afraid to hazard her Ships or Sailors, she ought to have kept them at *Plymouth* or *Portsmouth*, and not have sent them to engage so Experienced an Admiral as *Monf. Du Casf*.

What makes me fear they will lay the main Strefs of their Defence on this Point, is, from the printed Account wherein we are told, that when the *Intrepid* had lost her Fore-top-mast, they were all under the utmost Concern for the Preservation of the Ship; tho' they must know that this Damage might have been repair'd by their own Crew in a little more than an Hour.

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However, Sir, I am willing to grant these *brave* Gentlemen all the Indulgence they can reasonably desire, and will allow that they executed this Part of their Commission with the greatest Care and Caution; for the Admiral himself acknowledges, that he and more than Half his Captains were so extremely careful of their *Ships*, as not to have one single Man killed or wounded, nor one single Drop of Blood drawn, and that the Ships had not the least Hurt or Damage, either in the Hulls, Masts, Sails, or Rigging. Their Care in this Point is undeniably very conspicuous and apparent.-- How far it may amount to a Justification of their Conduct I will not take upon me to determine; but must leave it to the Consideration of a proper Court of Judicature, where, I am persuaded, they will find the utmost Indulgence and fair Play.

I now come, Sir, to reply to what you were pleas'd to say relating to the Tryal and publick Examination of those Naval Gentlemen. You desire me to consider that those Admirals and Captains are, for the most Part, Men of considerable Rank and Fortune, allied to and connected with some Great and Noble Families; and therefore you fear some political Reasons may make it necessary to pass over this Affair in Silence and Oblivion.

You very well know, Sir, I have been always accusom'd to pay a very great Regard to your Judgment and Opinion, especially in Matters of a political Nature: But in this Point I differ

differ from you as much as Light does from Darkneſs, and will affirm that whatever Miniſter or Miniſtry ſhould endeavour to ſuppreſs a publick Enquiry and Examination into this deteſtible Affair, would be guilty of the moſt ill-judg'd Policy in the World, and would act inconſiſtent with all the Rules of National Wiſdom and Prudence, and would draw on themſelves the Hatred, Contempt, and Reſentment of Six or Seven Millions of People in this Kingdom: There is not a City, a Town, a Borough, a Pariſh, a Village, a ſingle Farm-houſe, where they are not crying out, *Let Juſtice be done! Let Juſtice be done!* The People of *England* in general are an honeſt and brave People; and the Conſideration of their becoming a Province to *France* (which they all know muſt ſoon ſucceed the Loſs of our Superiority at Sea) fills their Minds with Horror and Aſtoniſhment: For they are all ſenſible that ſince the preſent Family came to the Crown they have been well and wiſely govern'd; they have an inviolable Attachment to His Maſteſty's Perſon, his Family, and Government; and are ready to ſacrifice their very Blood and their Money to the laſt Farthing for their Honour and Support. Their very Hearts and Souls are griev'd and prick'd at this Mark of Infamy and Diſgrace on the *Britiſh* Name and Nation; and what greatly adds to their Affliction is, the Conſideration that future Ages muſt know that this deteſtible Affair has happen'd in the glorious and unſpotted Reign of *George the Second*.

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The People of *England* are not so foolish and unreasonable as to desire any Punishment without a fair and open Tryal: What they desire, what they demand, what they expect, is no more nor less than those Gentlemen be brought to a Tryal agreeable to the Laws now in Being. In short, the Case stands thus: --- Our Naval Officers in the *Mediterranean* are strongly suspected by Six or Seven Millions of the good People of *England* of the most notorious, abominable, and detestible **Cowardice** that ever the World saw. If on a fair and proper Enquiry they appear *not guilty*, they may rest satisfied the Kingdom will do the utmost Justice to their Names and Characters: If otherwise, let the Law take its Place.--- This is all they desire or request; and this they have a Right to demand and expect.

For my Part, Sir, I tremble to think what Confusions and Convulsions may attend the disappointing and disgusting so many Millions of People by a single Act.--- Besides, if these Gentlemen be try'd, found guilty, and punished, it will in some measure wipe off the Infamy from the Nation, and it will rest alone where it ought to rest.

But if this Matter be huddled up in the Dark, all the Powers in *Europe* will regard it as a National Disgrace, and will never more treat us in that respectable Manner they have heretofore done.

History informs us, that there was a Time in this Kingdom when a Clergyman, a poor
ignorant

ignorant and turbulent Clergyman, I mean *Sacheverel*, who, was he now living, his Person, his Sermons, or Doctrines, would not be thought worthy the Notice or Observation of the meanest Man in *England*: Yet this very Man fairly overturn'd and threw upon their Backs a very great and powerful Administration. If such a trifling Affair has produced such great and memorable Effects; what may we not expect and fear from the general Disgust of all the People in *England* at once?

Upon the Whole, Sir, I must tell you plainly I have a very high Opinion of the Wisdom, Prudence, and Policy of our present Ministers, as I hope and believe they have all one general Point in view, the Support of the Government, the Welfare of the Nation, and the Honour of their Sovereign; and I persuade myself you'll soon see them firmly unite in doing Justice to the Nation, by granting all the reasonable Demands and Expectations of the People.

I have now done with this dark Affair, and have only one general Point more to offer to your Consideration.

I have lately seen a Manuscript Writing, with some Remarks, on the Conduct of our Land Officers in *Scotland* in the late Pretender's Time before our Royal Hero appear'd there: And here we see our Generals, Colonels, Captains, Officers, and Soldiers, Horse and Foot, every where flying before a contemptible, rude, ragged, and undisciplin'd Rabble; and which really was unaccountable, and surprising to all the Powers

Powers in *Europe*.--- In *America* we have a very recent and extraordinary Instance: Our Officers in a single Moment were so struck with a panick Fear, or Fit of Cowardice, that they blew up 150 Waggon, all loaded with Ammunition and Provisions for the Support of a great Army.

This Provision and Ammunition cost a prodigious Sum of Money; besides, it had been brought to the Place where it then was at an amazing Expence: Yet so great was their Fear and Terror, that they resolv'd at once to put a Barrel of Gunpowder under each Waggon, and blew all up in ten thousand pieces; whereby 150 Barrels of Powder, and 150 loaded Waggon, were in one Minute entirely lost and destroy'd; when at the same Time no one Enemy, either *French* or *Indian*, was within Forty-seven *English* Miles of them, and in a wild Country where the Woods were almost impassable, that that they could not possibly meet any sudden Surprise or Attack.

I speak of this Fact with some Degree of Certainty. I had it from a Gentleman who was then on the Spot, and saw the whole Transaction with his own Eyes, and heard the horrid and frightful Explosion with his own Ears.

From this and many other Instances of the like Nature, which I could easily mention, it evidently appears to me that there must be some fundamental Error in the Constitution of our Army and Navy, and that the present Manner

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and Methods of Preferment is extremely wrong, and has in its own Nature a more natural Aptitude and Tendency to depress than to exalt the Human Mind, and to inspire them with Fear and Cowardice rather than with the true Principles of Honour, Bravery, and Courage.

This most certainly is a Point of the last Importance to *England*, and highly deserves the Consideration of our Legislature. Let us see how this Matter is conducted by the other Nations of *Europe*; but in the first Place a striking Instance presents itself in our own Country. Whatever *Cromwell* was in other Parts of his Conduct, all the World will readily allow him to have been a very great, brave, and courageous Soldier; a Man of great Sagacity and Penetration; and by many Years Study and Experience had acquired a thorough Knowledge of Mankind. No Prince, no General, in the World, was ever more prudent and circumspect in the Disposal of Preferments in his Army and Navy; and would often remark, that his Success was chiefly owing to his having a proper Set of Officers. In his private Conversation and Epistolary Correspondence with his Officers*, he would be strongly inculcating to them the extreme Care that was necessary to fill up the Vacancies in the Army, and recommending it above all Things to prefer Men of sober, virtuous, and religious Lives; and that his

* Vide *Cromwell's* original Letters, publish'd by *John Nickolls*, Junr. Esq; in the Year 1743, Member of the Society of Antiquaries in *London*, and dedicated to the Right Hon. *Arthur Onslow*, Esq; Speaker of the House of Commons,

his own Experience had taught him that such Men would face Danger with great Firmness and Stability of Mind: For that Men of wicked and ungodly Lives were always horribly afraid of dying, and would fly at the first Approach of Danger; and would observe that the Wicked flyeth when no Men pursueth; but the Righteous is as bold as a Lion; his Heart is fix'd trusting in God; he fears no evil Tidings or Events.

Our Great Lawyer *Whitlock*, speaking of the extraordinary Courage of *Cromwell's* Soldiers, says of them, "They were all arm'd within" by the Satisfaction of their own Consciences, "and without with good Iron Arms: They" would all as one Man stand firmly, and "charge desperately." Neither his Soldiers or Sailors were ever accusom'd to pay any Regard to Numbers; they never refused to fight an Enemy by Land or Sea because they were on a Foot of Equality; witness his famous Battle at *Dunbar* in *Scotland*, where the Enemy were three to one against him; yet he kill'd Four Thousand on the Spot, took Ten Thousand Prisoners, and thereby totally routed and vanquish'd a wicked and ungodly Crew, who for a great Number of Years had been conspiring the Ruin and Subversion of our Religion, Laws, and Liberties. Well might *Whitlock* say, that those Soldiers stood firmly as one Man, and charg'd most desperately.

Cromwell's Care was equally the same in the Navy. No Man discover'd any remarkable

Courage or Bravery but he was instantly prefer'd. *Clarendon* was an avow'd Enemy to the Person and Government of this great Warrior; yet let us see what he is forc'd to acknowledge of one of his Admirals, meaning *Blake* :---

He was the first Man who declin'd the old Tract, and made it manifest that the Sea Service might be obtain'd in less Time than was generally imagin'd. He despis'd those Rules that had been long in Practice, to keep his Ships and Men out of Danger, which had been held in former Times a Point of great Ability and Circumspection, as if the principal Art requisite in the Captain of a Ship had been, To be sure to come home again. He was the first Man that brought our Ships to contempt Castles on Shore, which had been ever thought very formidable, and were discover'd by him to make a Noise only, and to fright those who could rarely be hurt by them. He was the first Man that infus'd that Proportion of Courage into our Seamen, by making them see what mighty Things they could do if they were resolv'd, and taught them to fight in Fire as well as in Water. All Clarendon's own Words.

What a glorious Character this from the Pen of a declared Enemy! Would to God a Man of such a Disposition had been in the late Skirmish in the *Mediterranean*! Such a Man could not have been as terribly frighten'd and alarm'd at the Loss of a single Fore-top-mast.

Blake was prefer'd to the Command of our Navy merely because he had in many Instances shewn a bold and courageous Spirit, firmly attach'd

attach'd to the Honour and Reputation of his Country. He was a Man of low Birth and Parentage, without Title or Estate; a Shop-keeper's Son of *Bridgewater*, in the County of *Somerset*.

I am very sensible I shall be here told, *That Things are vastly alter'd in England since those antient Days, and that our Government is in a manner chang'd; and that now we must have some Great Minister or Ministers of State, thro' whose Hands alone all Preferments must pass; and that those Ministers will always find a Party in England, who will examine and condemn their Conduct, right or wrong: And for this Reason it becomes necessary to look on all Preferments in one single Point of View; that is, to dispose of them in such a Manner as may best increase and extend his personal Interest and Influence, without any other Consideration whatsoever*

All this I will readily allow. But here is the *Church*, the *Custom-house*, the *Excise*, &c. &c. all open to the View of any Minister. Let him take what Latitude he pleases here. Let him have his full Swing. Here is Room enough to provide for all his Friends, poor Relations, Creatures, and Dependants. But, for God's sake! let the *Army* and *Navy* be kept sacred: Let no Preferment here come within the Reach of *Ministers*. If it does, we are all undone.

In all wise Governments upon Earth it is a fix'd and immutable Rule of Action, that no Degree of Preferment be ever obtain'd in the
Army

Army or *Navy*, without a proper Temper and Turn of Mind for it, and also without some apparent and previous Instances of real Courage and Bravery.

Such a Conduct as this would at once raise our Reputation, and infallibly secure us the constant and uninterrupted Dominion of all the Watry World, on which the very Being and Existence of our Nation depends. And I will take it upon me to affirm, That it is always right and good Policy to give the Preference to Men of sober, virtuous, and religious Lives. *They* will always be found to be the most depended on; for, as *Cromwell* observes, in Times of Difficulty and Danger *they* will maintain a greater Firmness and Stability of Mind than those of a contrary Character ever have, or ever will do.

I am sensible you'll tell me, that those Sentiments were only the private Opinion of *Cromwell*; and that, considering the Times and Age in which he liv'd, such a Conduct became quite reasonable and necessary. But this I deny absolutely; and, had I Time, I would evince to you, that such a Conduct was pursued by many antient Heroes and Warriors, who acted their Parts on the Stage of the World Two Thousand Years before *Cromwell* was born.

I will illustrate this by one single Instance in our own Days. *Doddridge*, in his Life of the brave Colonel *Gardiner*, tells us, That, about three or four Days before the Fight between
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the Rebels and General *Cope*, in *Scotland*, his Family and Friends about him observ'd a very great, and uncommon, Depression of Spirits, which appear'd the more conspicuous as he was naturally of an easy and chearful Temper. They pressed him greatly to know the Cause; but he was shy and reserv'd; which increas'd their Importunity. At last, forced to comply, he told them, *that he plainly saw, by the Disposition of the Rebel Army, they would soon give battle to the King's Forces; and that he was strongly impress'd with an Opinion that our Troops would run away, and not fight.* His Friends endeavour'd to laugh him out of it, by observing to him that such a Conduct was impossible, and that if our Forces were about to be attacked by old Veteran *French* or *German* Troops, there might be some Foundation for such a Suspicion: But the Followers of the Pretender could not properly be call'd *an Army*, but were only a *rude, ragged, undisciplin'd Rabble*. However, *Gardiner* offer'd Reasons to support his Suspicion. One was, *That the general Corruption and Dissoluteness in the Lives and Manners of the Soldiers was so notorious, that he was afraid they would not think the Safety of their Country, and the Preservation of their Religion and Laws, worth fighting for.*

The Event soon verifi'd *Gardiner's* Prediction: For, at the first Onset, the greatest Part of our Forces fled instantly.

Did *Gardiner* fly? No, most certainly he did not. It was impossible that a brave Soldier,

er, under the Influence of Honour, Virtue, & Religion, should fly before such contemptible Wretches. He rode up and down, to the Hazard of his Life, endeavouring to collect the scatter'd Remains of the Foot-Soldiers; who, encouraged by his Persuasion and Example, turn'd once more about, and bravely faced the Enemy. And to this very Day 'tis the Opinion of many who live on or very near the Place of this Action, and who, it may be presumed, were acquainted with the minute Circumstances of it, that in case the runaway Officers and Soldiers had thought proper to have return'd at that very Instant, and to have afforded *Gardiner* but a slender Support, he would have totally routed this ragged Crew, and cut the greatest Part of them in pieces: But he was most shamefully & cowardly deserted and left alone, to fall a Sacrifice to a barbarous and cruel Enemy. May the Name and Character of this Good and Brave Soldier be transmitted to Posterity with Honour and Renown, the immortal Reward of Men who are nobly slain in Defence of their Country.

The late Sir *Peter Warren* was deem'd a brave Sailor and Soldier likewise. --- On his Return to *England* from the Conquest of *Cape-Breton*, he happen'd to dine at *London* with a considerable Number of Land and Sea Officers. A Gentleman of Rank told Sir *Peter*, that he did not take *Cape-Breton* by the usual Methods of Powder and Ball, but by Prayer and Fasting. To which he reply'd, *Don't banter my praying Soldiers.*

Soldiers. I will at any Time take Two Thousand of them, and fight them against Four Thousand of your G--d d---mme Soldiers, and beat them also.

Let us now step into *France*, and see what we can collect there relating to the Conduct of their Army and Navy. And here we find a Woman, a great and marvellous Woman, a virtuous and chaste Woman, I mean the justly celebrated *Madame de Maintenon*; who by her Virtue and good Sense alone had, in a surprising Manner, acquir'd a large Share in the primenary Operations of Government in this great and vast Empire. She informs us, that she had often told the *French King*, *That his Ill-success in his Wars, by Sea and Land, was in great measure his own Fault, merely for want of greater Care and Circumspection in the Choice of his Officers.*--- This Woman could never have seen the private Letters and Transactions of *Cromwell*, because they were not published during her Life: But we find she would often talk to that King in the same Manner, and almost in the same identical Words; and would often remark to him, *That a great Number of his Sea and Land Officers were entirely given up to Gallantry and Pleasure; and that others were of very wicked, dissolute, and most profligate Lives; and that it could never be expected that Men under the Influence of such Principles should stand at the Approach of Danger, as those that were influenced by the Principles of Honour and Virtue.*

She had talked to the King so often on this Subject, that at last he plainly perceiv'd that

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this Lady had more Sagacity and Penetration, and knew Mankind better, than he himself, or any of his Courtiers about him.

In the latter Part of his Life, she tells us, he pursued her Plan; and would not prefer any Man to a considerable Post in the Army or Navy, without making a nice and critical Enquiry into his private Life and Conduct; of which she gives us one remarkable Instance of the King's advancing a Person of considerable Rank to a Place of Eminence in the Army, without having Time to make the usual previous Enquiry till some Weeks afterwards; and this Enquiry not proving to the King's Satisfaction, he obliged him instantly to resign, and filled up the Vacancy by another Person of less Abilities in the Military Way, for no other Reason in the World but because he was a Person of better Life and Morals.

I would not pretend to insinuate, that the *French* King's Conduct in this Affair was from any real or internal Regard to Honour and Virtue--- No, not in the least.--- But his own Experience had taught him that this was right and good Policy*.

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* This famous Woman was born in *America*, of Parents who were reduced to a very great Degree of Poverty. Transported into *France* in her Infancy, married at Sixteen to *Monf. Scarron*, of *Amiens*, Poet, who, tho' he liv'd like a Gentleman, was never worth a Groat, and was supported by the Beneficence and Charity of others: He had no Occasion for a Wife, but merely from the Pleasure that would result from the Conversation of so fine a Genius. She consented

Let us look for a Moment into *Russia*, a vast and great Empire, which has now an amazing Body of Troops, sufficient not only to guard their own extensive Territories, but also to let out to Hire 50 or 100,000 Men at very little Notice, and at a very low Rate:-- Troops that are in their own Nature hardy and brave, and almost as regular and well disciplin'd as any Army in *Europe*.--- It is not very many Years since that this Country was extremely ignorant,

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wild,

sent to the Match from the same Motives, and promised herself great Improvements in Knowledge and Literature from a Man of so much Wit and Humour. I am very sensible during her long residing at Court, and the vast Ascendancy she had over the *French King*, she was look'd upon by all *Europe* in the Number of his Mistresses. But after the utmost Searches and Researches into the Life and Conduct of this Great Woman, I sincerely believe the contrary; and Numbers of Ladies about the Court, at this very Time, look'd on the common Opinion to be absolutely false; and that her Virtue was sufficient Proof against the highest Pitch of Prosperity, Dominion, or Wealth. By Means of Father *le Chaise*, the *French King's* Confessor, Madam *de Montespan* was many Times forbid the Sacraments, because she liv'd in open Adultery; and he would have done the same by Madame *de Maintenon*, if he had not been assured of her Virtue; but he always esteem'd and respected her highly. Shortly after the Queen's Death, the King married her. Father *le Chaise* and Mons. *Louvois*, Secretary of State, were present at the Solemnity; the Time when, the Place where, and the Manner how it was perform'd, have been fully and clearly described by some late Historians. She carried on an Epistolary Correspondence with most of the Kings, Princes, and Great Ministers of State in *Europe*, as well as with successive Popes and Cardinals, &c. &c.— This is certainly foreign from my present Business; but as it fell in my Way to speak of this Woman, I thought I should not do Justice to her Name and Character by saying less.

wild, and barbarous;— entire Strangers to all Military Order and Discipline; so that a Thousand of their Enemy would often put Ten Thousand of 'em to flight.

Let us here stand still; -- make a Pause, and reflect a little, how and by what Means this wonderful Change was brought about, and all during the Life of one single Man, the Czar *Peter*. He in the first Place made himself a thorough Master of the Military Art and Science, and thereby influenced his Subjects of all Ranks and Degrees to follow his Example. He has told his Generals, his Officers, and Soldiers, a hundred and a hundred Times over and over again, that Birth and Parentage, Title or Estate, should never be made any one Step to Preferment in his Army; but that every individual Man, of whatever Rank or Degree, should be preferr'd in Proportion to his own personal Bravery and Courage. And by this Means only he brought his wild and barbarous People into a Liking of the Military Art, and inspir'd their Minds with real Fortitude and Bravery; that in a few Years he lived to see his Troops possess'd with an insatiable Thirst and Desire after Military Honour, Glory, and Preferment; and they would stand as firmly, and fight as desperately, as any Troops in *Europe*.

The History of all Kingdoms and Nations informs us, that most Kings and Princes have every where discover'd a restless and insatiable Desire of greater Degrees of Dominion and Wealth; but no one ever yet since the Creati-

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on of the World arriv'd to that amazing Pitch as *Kouli Kan* †, who for a long Tract of Time maintain'd a vast Superiority over many great and mighty Armies, at a vast Distance from each other, in that wide and extended Empire of *Persia*, a Country subject to many and perpetual Revolts.--- It's amazing to consider what Regularity and Subordination they were constantly under to their own General.--- I am very sensible it has been insinuated by many Historians, that this Discipline and Subordination of his Troops, arose merely from a Principle of Terror and Fear. This is a ridiculous Supposition, and false in Fact, and which, had I Time, I could easily confute. I will allow that *Kouli Kan* was a cruel and bloody Tyrant; however, in the Management of his Army he inviolably pursued the same Plan as the Czar *Peter*. Infinite Numbers of his Officers and Soldiers had been preferr'd to Places of great Honour and Profit in his Army; and from thence arose their Regard and Attachment to him. There was not a single Foot Soldier in all his Army but what very well knew, that if he discover'd any Degree of real Bravery and
 Courage,

† When *Kouli Kan* return'd from his Conquest in *India*, many Historians say he brought with him to the Amount of One Hundred and Twenty Millions Sterling, in Silver and Gold Plate and Jewels only, besides immense Quantities of fine rich Furniture of an amazing Value, and also a vast Number of Camels, Elephants, &c. &c. &c. But I believe the late Mr. *Hamway*'s Calculations are the most exact, and he makes it only Eighty or Eighty-five Millions in Silver and Gold, Plate, and Jewels, besides the rich Furniture, &c. &c.

Courage, he should immediately be taken under the Royal Protection, rewarded and promoted in the most open and conspicuous Manner: And this reconciled his Army, and induced them chearfully to endure almost insuperable Difficulties, — long and fatiguing Marches, a constant Succession of insupportable Toils, and many Times destitute of the common Necessaries and Conveniencies of Life. By such Conduct arose this mighty Warrior to an amazing Pitch of Power and Grandeur; which he never could have obtain'd by any other Ways or Means in the World.

As we are now got to the Borders of *Turky*, we will just look a little into their Conduct: And here *Topal Ozman*, their most famous and celebrated General, at once demands our Attention as well as Veneration. This great and good General was as opposite, in his publick and private Character, from *Kouli Kan*, as Heaven is from Hell. *Topal Ozman* was a wise, prudent, and very religious Man. In his private Life and Conduct no Man ever maintain'd a more worthy and exalted Character.. He had a certain Nobleness, Generosity, and Benevolence of Soul, equall'd by few, and perhaps exceeded by none, in the Christian World. He govern'd Kingdoms, commanded Armies, and fought Battles. In one single Action he slew Thirty Thousand of *Kouli Kan's* best Troops, took an infinite Number of Prisoners, and totally routed the whole *Persian* Army. *Topal Ozman* was belov'd, and even ador'd, by
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all his Officers and Soldiers : They had a high Opinion of his Uprightness and Integrity, as well as of his Bravery and Courage; and every Man in his Army knew that if he behav'd well he should be openly rewarded and promoted. And merely from this Principle alone arose that vast Attachment his Soldiers had for him. He animated their Minds to that Degree of Intrepidity and Valour that had been hitherto unknown in the *Turkish* Empire.

After this grand Victory, he wrote many Letters to the Grand Signior, desiring Leave to return from the Command of the Army, on Account of his Age and Bodily Infirmities. But the Grand Signior too well knew the vast Importance of this One Man, and reply'd to him, that if he would have any Addition of Wealth or Power, it should be most chearfully granted him; but on no Terms would he consent he should leave the Army.

This most dreadful and bloody Battle was fought in the Year 1733. It lasted 8 Hours. *Kouli Kan* was never so fairly beaten, or heartily drubb'd, in all his Life. It was the general Opinion in *Turkey*, and thro' all *Persia*, that he would never more face the *Turkish* Army : But 'tis late before the Brave despair. --- This wonderful Man dispatch'd Couriers to all Parts of *Persia*, and soon collected a prodigious Reinforcement, besides a great Number of Auxiliary and Mercenary Troops, and with an amazing Rapidity return'd in a few Months, to give *Topal Osman* battle.

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The Evening before this second Battle, he summon'd his General Officers (agreeable to his stated Custom), and, in a pathetic Speech, exhorted them to behave with the utmost Courage and Firmness of Mind: That they should consider they were to engage with one of the best and bravest Soldiers in the World: That he had made an admirable Disposition of his Troops: And that Tomorrow would be the great and important Day on which the Fate of the *Persian* Empire would be determin'd. But this bloody and cruel Man hinted to them also, That the Victory would very much depend on the single Life of *Topal Osman*; and that if by any Way or Means they could take him off, the whole *Turkish* Army would instantly be put to flight; and then they might not only subdue the Army, but make an easy Conquest of the whole *Turkish* Empire, if they thought it worth while.

Next Morning early the Battle began. Some of *Kouli-Kan's* most daring and Veteran Soldiers began the Attack in that Part of the Army where *Topal Osman* was. The first Onset was so well conducted, and with such amazing Fury, that they forced the *Turkish* Lines at once. *Topal Osman* was not wanting in the Duties of a brave and experienced General. He rode to and fro; rallied his Men; made them face about and discharge twice. But in this Transaction his Person was greatly expos'd, and a bold *Persian* Officer rode up to him, and shot him thro' the Body. Which News instantly

stantly spread through the whole Army. They were all seiz'd with a general Panick, and fled at once, and in infinite Numbers were slain or taken prisoners.

In the Evening *Kouli-Kan*, with several of his Generals, return'd to the Field of Battle, and survey'd the Corpse of *Topal Ozman* with a profound Silence and awful Reverence, agreeable to the Custom of the *Eastern Nations*. He then sent the Body, in a grand and awful Procession, to the *Turkish* Governor of *Bagdat*, attended by a Person of considerable Rank, to deliver a genteel and polite Message, viz. That *Kouli-Kan* had sent him the Remains of that brave General *Topal Ozman*, earnestly requesting, that it might receive the Funeral-Rites due to a Person of his exalted Rank and Dignity; for that he had always esteem'd him the best and wisest Statesman, the bravest Soldier, and the most worthy Patriot, that the *Turkish* Empire had ever produced.

Within Ten Days after *Topal Ozman's* Death the whole *Turkish* Army fell into various Parties and Factions, and (in short) into the utmost Confusion. The Grand Signior plainly saw that there was not the least Dependance on his Army, and that, nothing remain'd for him to do but the sending Ambassadors to *Kouli-Kan*, meanly to beg a Peace.

After a long and tedious Attendance, he vouchsafed them an Audience in his Tent. The haughty Tyrant receiv'd them with the utmost Insolence and Contempt, and told them,

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if they wanted a Peace, the first Preliminary should be, That they submit to whatever Terms and Conditions he should think proper to prescribe : And, secondly, that they should publicly and openly acknowledge his Lenity, and extreme Moderation, in not conquering the *Turkish* Empire, which was in his Power to do ;--- for that *Topal Ozman* was now no more.

I am very sensible those Facts are well known throughout all *Europe*. My Reason for reciting them here is only to convince you, Sir, of what vast Importance it is to any Kingdom, or Nation, in the World, to have wise, brave, and courageous Officers both by Sea and Land, and that proper Persons should be sought after with the utmost Care and Circumspection ; and that without it it's foolish and ridiculous to expect Victory or Success.

When Mankind began at first to increase and multiply upon the Earth, they found it necessary, for their mutual Safety and Support, to enter into Society : And certain Laws were established and agreed on that were, in their own Nature, fix'd and unmoveable, and to be of eternal Obligation. *Hang well and pay well* has, in all Nations of the World, ever been deem'd to be one of those primerary fundamental Laws, without which no Nation ever did, nor ever can, nor ever will, exist long. All the Blemishes and Disgraces that have fallen upon this poor Nation of ours for these 50 Years past, have been owing to the Neglect & Non-obsevance of this One antient Maxim.

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I will grant that in the Article of *paying* we have been too abundant, too extravagant and profuse ; but in the Article of *hanging* we have been most abundantly too sparing and negligent : And unless this fundamental Law be more strictly adher'd to in Time to come, we are all ruin'd and undone.

I shall doubtless be told here, that this has been owing to the Lenity, and extreme Moderation, of our King and his Ministers. But, my dear Friend, this Lenity and Moderation to particular Persons may be, and often-times is, the greatest Cruelty to the Whole. *Salus Populi Suprema Lex.* Princes and Ministers of State ought to have but one single Point in View ; The Safety, the Honour, and Support of the Whole Community.

Ld. Bacon, the Earl of *Shaftsbury*, and many others of our own Wifest and most Eminent of our own Politicians, who have wrote on the Nature of Government in general, and the Means whereby it may be render'd permanent and durable, inform us, that there is a very great Affinity and Resemblance between the Body Natural and the Body Politick. That the former stands in need of frequent Reparations, by Physick, Bleeding, Emeticks, Evacuations, &c. &c. to support and maintain it in a proper State of Health and Vigour. And the same Methods are indispensibly necessary to support the Constitution of the Body Politick ; and that *bleeding*, that is, the *hanging* up a few Great Criminals, once or twice in a

Century, would be extremely beneficial to the political Constitution, and would add to it some real Strength, Firmness, **and** Stability, and render that Government **more** respectable both Abroad and at Home; and if at any Time it should occur that any Criminal, or Number of Criminals, should, in themselves, or by their Alliances and Connections with others, become so considerable that the Government has not a sufficient Power and Strength to bring those Criminals to a Tryal and Punishment, it's an infallible Proof of its great Weakness and Imbecility, and carries indubitable Marks that such a Government is in a declining Way, and drawing towards its final Period & Dissolution.

Let us suppose in any Government two or three Admirals, two or three Sea-Captains, and two or three Land-Officers, were to be hang'd up, I am persuaded it would be of great Benefit to the Constitution of that Government, and would be a great Addition to its real Strength, Firmness, and Stability, and would naturally tend to make it more respectable at Home and Abroad; yea, many of our great Politicians go much higher than this, and say, that the trussing up a great and all-powerful Prime Minister once in Fifty or an Hundred Years, would be of vast Service, and would invigorate the Constitution to a surprising Degree.

What I have said here of Government is not to be understood to relate to any particular Form or System, or to any one Nation more than another. No, Sir; it equally and alike
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holds good in every Kingdom and Nation, in every Form or System of Government that ever was, or ever shall be upon the Face of the Earth. It arises from the Nature of Government in general, and from the natural Tempers and Dispositions of Mankind. I would not have you imagine that I recommend this Hanging Disposition merely for the sake of Hanging: No; in all such Cases the supposed Criminal or Criminals must have a fair, open, and conspicuous Tryal, agreeable to the known and establish'd Laws of his particular Country. There must be no straining of Laws, no secret Ministerial Influence, nor none from the Prerogative; the Laws must take their Course fairly, and either condemn or acquit; for it's extremely necessary that the whole Community be fully and clearly satisfy'd of the Justice and Equity of the Tryal, and Legality of the Punishment, and then all will go right; and by every such Tryal and Punishment the Government will receive some additional Strength and Vigour.

In all Governments in the World there will naturally arise some critical and particular Periods of Time in which those sanguinary Proceedings become more immediately necessary; and it is the Business of Governors to distinguish with the utmost Sagacity when those Periods of Time may occur, and to make the necessary Application.

Before I conclude I must beg, dear Sir, that you will lay aside every thing else for a few Minutes, and calmly reflect on the peculiar and extraordinary

extraordinary Nature of the present Dispute between us and *France*. The Dispute is not who shall be Emperor of *Germany*, or King of the *Romans*, or how or in what Manner the different Claims and Pretensions of all the Princes in *Germany* shall be settled and adjusted to a Hair's Breadth: We are not now vainly and wantonly expending our Blood and Treasure, beating out the Brains of our Soldiery against confounded hard Stone Walls in *Flanders*, to secure Barrier Towns for our most honest, most faithful, and most grateful Allies, the *Dutch*.

---- No, Sir, this is not the Case at present: It is who shall have the Dominion of the Sea, they or us; a Dispute on which our ALL depends: And should we happen to be worsted in this Point, we are ruin'd and undone; that is, our most gracious Sovereign, his worthy and amiable Family, our Nobility, Gentry, and Commonalty. But this is not all; our Posterity will be ruin'd also. In short, the Destruction is final, even to our Bodies, Souls, and Estates. However, I am in Hopes that every honest and true *Englishman* will calmly and most deliberately prefer immediate Death, rather than drag on Life in Slavery, Popery, Tyranny, and the worst and most accursed of all Evils, Ecclesiastical Power and Cruelty; -- every Child in *England* knows these are, and must unavoidably be, the natural Consequences of our losing the Dominion of the Sea.

The Eyes of all *Europe* are upon us; they view us with Wonder and Amazement: A
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French Fleet riding triumphantly in the *Mediterranean* Sea, and the *British* Navy flying before them with Fear and Trembling! all the Harbours in the *Mediterranean* fill'd with *English* Merchant-Ships, and not one dare to stir out: O horrible! O my Country! O my Country! What are we now to do in this lamentable State of Things! Our Religion, our Laws, our Liberties, will shortly be no more. Let us then resolve to die like Men and *Britons*; let us follow the Example of our late Military Gentlemen in *America*, only instead of One Hundred and Fifty Barrels of Powder, let us have One Hundred and Fifty Thousand, and let it be properly and judiciously placed under the very Center of our once brave and courageous Island, and so blow up all at once, and courageously perish in one general Exploſion. Such a Conduct as this would be worthy the *British* Nation, and of real Benefit to Posterity, as it would be much better to prevent their Existence, than to transmit to them Popery, Chains, and Darkneſs. This appears to me to be the moſt eligible Step, as thereby the *British* Name and Nation would be for ever remember'd by the ſurviving Powers of *Europe* with immortal Honour and Renown.

To conclude: What I have hitherto ſaid has been all of a Publick Nature. I am very ſenſible Mankind in general are moſt nearly affected with what regards their own dear Selves. I very well know you have a great Fondneſs to continue your Seat in Parliament.

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Your Birth, your Estate, and your Abilities, give you a Right to it: But I would advise you to be extremely cautious of your Conduct in this *Mediterranean* Affair; for should it be so much as suspected or whisper'd in your Borough, that you have in any Shape endeavour'd to defeat the honest and most equitable Demands and Expectations of the People, your whole Estate would not secure your Election; your very Life would be in Danger in passing our Streets; People of all Parties, Ranks, and Degrees, would tell you to your Face, that they don't covet your Money, -- that they don't regard your Favour, -- nor at all fear your Displeasure. In which Number you will assuredly find your humble Servant to be one:

July 23. 1756.

An Englishman.

F I N I S.

POSTSCRIPT.

SINCE the preceding LETTER was finished, and a great Part of it printed off, I have heard the most dreadful News that Port-Mahon is gone! --- Oh horrible! I immediately catch'd up my Pen, with a Design to make some further Remarks, and to raise the just Resentment and Indignation of my Fellow Britons against our Naval Officer, by whose Means alone this most important Place hath been lost. But, Sir, the Subject is of too moving a Nature. I cannot do it. I am not able. My Spirits sink. My Hand trembles. My Heart bleeds. My Tears bedew my Paper. My Soul is pierced through, for the Honour of my Sovereign and the Safety of my Country.

Oh! England! oh! England! -- Thy Destruction is of Thy-self; and I fear the Time of thy Dissolution draweth nigh; --- unless prevented by a speedy Repentance, and a thorough Reformation in thy Moral Conduct. A very wise and powerful King, who reign'd upon Earth Two or Three Thousand Years since, tells us, from his own Knowledge and Experience, that it is Righteousness and Virtue alone that exalteth a Nation; and

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that Sin and Wickedness (that is, a general and prevailing Spirit of Venality and Corruption, with its natural Attendants Treachery and Cowardice), will terminate in the Ruin of any People.

Oh! how will Posterity stand amaz'd and confounded, when our Annals shall tell them, That in the Year 1756, and in the Reign of GEORGE the Second, one of the best and bravest Princes that ever sat on the British Throne, the Important Island of MINORCA, after having been near Fifty Years in the Hands of the English, was given up to the French, by the united Treachery and Cowardice of our Admirals, our Sea-Captains, and a few Land-Officers!

I call it united Cowardice, because that our Admiral positively affirms, That in the Council of War not the least Doubt or Dispute arose; they all, every single Soul, that is, the Admirals, the Sea-Captains, and the bold Land-Officers, they all agreed and resolved to abandon Minorca; which they were sent out on Purpose to relieve: They resolved as much as in them lay, that our Garrison at Mahone should be cut in pieces: They all agreed and resolved to sacrifice the Honour of their Sovereign, the Safety of their Country, and to entail upon our Name and Nation an eternal Brand of Infamy and Disgrace. This is what they all resolved to do; and this Resolution was absolutely unanimous; for the Admiral affirms, that in this Determination not the least Doubt or Dispute arose.
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It plainly appears they were all equally and alike guilty; and, by a Parity of Reason, they ought all to receive equally and alike the same Degree of Punishment. It is unquestionably such an Act of Cowardice as no Age, no History, can parallel, since the Creation of the World.

Now, O thou Eternal God! Thou Maker of Heaven and Earth, look down with Pity on these thy once favour'd Isles of England, Scotland, and Ireland: O Lord save us! O Lord spare us, and destroy us not! Pour down upon the Inhabitants of these Lands a Spirit of Uprightness and Integrity, a Firmness of Mind, and a noble Fortitude of Soul; and grant that they may all resolve and determine that they will pursue with their united Vengeance that Man, that Minister, or that Body of Men, that shall dare attempt to screen the least of those Criminals from the Justice and Punishment our Laws may assign them.

I can go no farther, nor say any more. My Spirits won't bear it.

Oh where! Oh! where is the One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Barrels of Powder!

Now attend, O ye Heavens! and give ear, O ye Earth! and grant that some kind and propitious Hand may lead me to the lighted Match! I will kindle the fiery Train; and the British Name and Nation shall be no more. Listen and attend, O ye Cherubims, ye Straphims, and all ye Winged Hosts

Hosts of the Celestial World: Look down with Pity: View the awful, the final, and most tremendous Exit of the British World! --- A Race of Mortals, in themselves, the most bold and brave that ever trod the Terrestrial Globe. View them, I say, with Love and Reverence, in their expiring Groans, in their latest Agonies and Convulsions of Nature; and you'll hear them crying out, with one united Voice, the doleful Sound,

Oh! BRITANNIA! poor BRITANNIA!

BRITANNIA rules the Waves --- no more!

FINIS! FINIS!

